

coverage. The community of Indianapolis chipped in, with teammates, fans, and local businesses helping the Rajah pay for his medical care.

Perhaps the most poignant testimony of Roger Brown was his statement after learning about his cancer. "If I was to die tomorrow, I've lived a hell of a life," said Mr. Brown. "I've dealt with my mortality. I did that coming out of Brooklyn, because you don't know if you're going to make it to the next day. The quality of life is what's important, because everybody's got to go."

Mr. Speaker, perhaps this body could learn a little from Roger Brown, a person who lived his life unassumingly but understood that in the end, it was the value of a life well-lived that mattered the most. For Mr. Brown, we should continue to look for ways to ensure that all have the quality of life they deserve. In the words of Pacers coach Larry Brown, "we have lost a good friend."

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, on February 27, 1997, I reintroduced legislation, H.R. 897, that would require the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to take advantage of abandoned and underutilized buildings and grounds in economically depressed areas of the country when selecting new site facilities. I ask all of my colleagues to become cosponsors of H.R. 897.

In this age of reinvestment in our large cities, programs such as enterprise zones and HUD grants offer economically depressed communities the opportunity to pick themselves up and forge ahead with their recovery. However, Federal agencies, such as NASA, should look at those same communities when looking to expand their facilities. Much like a major sports team, NASA expansion into an economically depressed area would boost the area's financial status, self esteem, and morale. Often these last two items simply cannot be fixed with a simple government-sponsored grant.

H.R. 897 would also allow older buildings and underused facilities in decaying cities the chance to be fully utilized, thereby furthering the economic and cosmetic recovery of those cities. And because those facilities would already be in place, NASA would not have to spend a fortune on constructing all new buildings and support infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, NASA's operations should not just be something we see pictures of on television. Once again, I urge all House Members to cosponsor H.R. 897.

TRIBUTE TO JOANNE RON GILBERT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joanne Ron Gilbert, a dedicated com-

munity leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Joanne Ron Gilbert is an educator who specializes in at risk students. According to her nomination, she "has received no formal awards, but is recognized by those who know her as someone who has transformed lives." Transferred from Detroit to San Mateo County in 1984, newly divorced with a teenaged son, her job was soon eliminated. She worked out a homesharing plan to provide her son with a secure environment, returned to school to earn a teaching credential, got a full-time teaching job, and developed a private tutoring practice. She also managed to volunteer as a landlord-tenant dispute mediator, coordinate events for the Jazz for the Homeless Program, and worked in local political campaigns. As a member of the county Human Relations Commission, she developed the first and only County Hate Crimes Conference. In 1992, finally able to buy her own condominium and seeing her son enter law school, she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. During her battle with this disease, which left her voiceless and unable to work for 3 months, she maintained correspondence with her students, providing them with support and counsel. Back at work since February 1995, she is taking classes in alternative dispute resolution and educational therapy.

Mr. Speaker, Joanne Ron Gilbert is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ST. JOSEPH PARISH, LEBANON, IL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to St. Joseph Parish in Lebanon, IL, which is celebrating its 135th anniversary this month. For over a century, St. Joseph Parish has provided essential services to its parishioners, local residents, and to communities throughout the diocese through a number of organizations and programs.

Locally, St. Joseph Parish works with other parishes to provide substantial financial assistance to Christian Home Care Services, an ecumenical nonprofit organizations. With the help of St. Joseph's, this group focuses on keeping people in their homes as long as possible by providing low-cost, nonmedical care in the form of companionship, transportation, light housekeeping, and meal preparation for the elderly and disabled in the community. St. Joseph Parish seeks to meet the emotional needs of the community as well through its participation in the family care ministry which helps strengthen individuals and families by providing low-cost counseling. The most immediate needs of local residents are not overlooked by St. Joseph Parish, which also contributes to a local food pantry and provides financial resources to transient individuals, and to individuals needing rental assistance.

The parish's tradition of giving extends well beyond the local community. Through its local chapter of Saint Vincent dePaul, St. Joseph Parish provides children in the neighboring community of East St. Louis with school supplies during the school year and Christmas gifts during the holiday. St. Joseph's also aids the community by donating clothing, furniture, and household items, and has participated in various flood relief efforts in recent years through these means.

St. Joseph's has a rich history of helping others and has become one of the mainstays of this small, close-knit community. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Joseph Parish's parishioners and friends on their 135th anniversary.

HONORING STEPHANIE CAVANAUGH

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity before the House to congratulate Ms. Stephanie J. Cavanaugh on her 22 years of commitment to the ladies auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars No. 554 in Somerset, PA.

Stephanie has served in a variety of positions within the organization, including four terms as auxiliary president and one term as district president. She has chaired numerous programs, at times while simultaneously serving in her leadership positions or serving her community as president of the Somerset County Council, which she did for two terms. Additionally, she was elected to the high offices of department guard, in 1991, and department president, in 1996. She has garnered numerous awards, including a national award for best promotional materials during her tenure as membership chairman from 1993 to 1994.

Stephanie followed her late father's example of leadership and service to fellow citizens. William S. (Bill) Orban served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was a founding member and first commander of Post No. 7565 in Hooversville, PA.

Stephanie is also a trained paramedic, has worked with mentally handicapped. In the scenic mountain wilderness of scenic Somerset County, she was a member of the County Sheriff's Department search and rescue team, certified in as a tracker, dog handler, and in rope rescue.

I hope you will all join me in applauding Stephanie Cavanaugh for her stellar achievements in the service of her community and the ladies auxiliary.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET TAYLOR

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Taylor, an extraordinary, dedicated community leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Margaret Taylor, as the director of San Mateo County's Health Services Agency, has distinguished herself as a regional and statewide leader in health care. She has ably guided the department to prepare for the future of healthcare delivery well into the 21st century. Margaret Taylor is the very first woman ever appointed head of a San Mateo County government department. She consistently sets the highest of standards and goals, and turns them into reality.

Margaret Taylor is the first chairperson and founding member of the Health Plan of San Mateo, a model, countywide managed care program for 52,000 Medi-Cal beneficiaries. She also is co-chairperson of the executive committee of Nuestro Canto de Salud, a joint project between El Concilio and Health Services, responsible for \$2 million in health education and health care grants. As an executive

board member and past president of the County Health Executives Association of California, she works with all of California's county health directors to develop public health policy for elected officials. Additionally, she is a board member of the San Mateo County Hospital Consortium, the Association of Bay Area Health Officials, and the California Association of Public Hospitals.

Margaret Taylor is deeply concerned about the health needs of women. She has developed prenatal care programs and created conferences on breast cancer and cancer education. She is an executive committee member of the California Women's Health Council, the first advisory group to the State Department of Health Services on all women's health issues.

Margaret Taylor joined with the San Mateo Rotary Club in developing a health professions

mentorship project for young women and minorities, and has developed many partnerships with community organizations to enable them to enhance the care of those they serve. Her work with the Hispanic Concilio resulted in the award of a prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant. Margaret Taylor is a woman of vision, and because of her public service, tens of thousands of people's lives have been bettered.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret Taylor is an outstanding citizen, a long-time colleague, and my trusted friend. I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community and our country and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.